

REMARKS

Summary

Claims 1-12 were pending and all of the claims were rejected. Claim 9 has been cancelled. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended. No new matter has been added. The Applicant has reviewed the cited art and the reasons given by the Examiner for the rejections and respectfully traverses these actions, in view of the amendments and the arguments presented below.

Claim Rejections

35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claim 9 has been cancelled, obviating the rejection thereof. Claims 1-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. The Applicant apologizes for the incomplete aspects of the previous amendment to Claim 1 which led to this situation, and expresses appreciation to the Examiner for making an interpretation of the claims which permitted the examination of the application to proceed. Claim 1 has been amended to better express the subject matter claimed, and the Applicant respectfully submits that the amendment has overcome the rejection.

35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claim 1-4, 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Kim (US 6,175,396; "Kim") '417, in view of Hara (US 6,661,482; "Hara") in view of Lien et al. (US5,309,264; "Lien"), Koike et al. (US 5,745,206; "Koike") and Kim et al. (US 6,005,650 "Kim II"). The Applicant has amended Claim 1 to more clearly distinguish over the references.

Amended Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, an optical sheet fixedly secured to the main support through a first securing point close to an end of a first diagonal line having a first thermal expansion coefficient of the optical sheet.

Kim teaches a “through hole 100 in the sheets 3....such that the first pin 13 does not contact the sheets 3. The first through hole [a slit] is located such that its lengthwise direction is parallel with the direction of expansion of the sheets 3, which is preferably the lengthwise direction of the sheets 3.” (Kim, col. 7, lines 28-47; Fig. 1). Thus Kim teaches that: (a) pins 13 are disposed such that they do not restrain the motion of the sheet in expansion, permitting sliding motion of the sheet in the direction of maximum thermal expansion; and, (b) the axis of thermal expansion is parallel to an edge of the sheet. This is not the arrangement recited in amended Claim 1 where the optical sheet is fixedly secured through a first securing point and the first securing point is close to an end of a first diagonal line having a first thermal coefficient. The other references do not teach or suggest the aspects of Claim 1 recited above that are not taught by Kim and, for at least these reasons, the claim is allowable.

Claims 2-12 are claims dependent on an allowable claim, and are allowable, without more.

Conclusion

Claims 1-12 are pending.

For at least the reasons given above, the Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are allowable.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned in the event that a telephone interview would expedite consideration of the application.

Respectfully submitted,



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